

# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for  
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

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## NCA Can Size Committee to Meet in San Francisco

A meeting of the Association's Committee on Simplification of Containers has been called by Chairman Ivan H. Moorehouse for September 5, in San Francisco. The Committee will study the information derived from the current N.C.A. survey of canner opinion as to the extent to which the 1940 list of can size recommendations should be revised.

A large number of the questionnaire forms have been received and tabulation of these forms by the Association's Division of Statistics is in progress. To enable the Committee to have the benefit of the most complete industry expression available, it is urged that those canners who have not returned the form do so immediately, so that their recommendations may be included in the recapitulation now in preparation for the Committee meeting.

Association Counsel—preparatory to filing a brief of exceptions to the Federal Security Administrator's recent refusal to permit a reduction in the standards for the fill of container for canned shrimp under the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act—is studying the testimony given in connection with the proposed amendment, and the Administrator's finding of fact issued at the time he ordered the canned shrimp standards to remain unchanged.

Attorney General Tom C. Clark on August 12 instructed the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice to launch immediately a program aimed at conspiracies to maintain or to increase present prices in the food, clothing and housing fields. "Such conspiracies will be prosecuted criminally, and in those cases the Justice Department will oppose acceptance by the courts of pleas of nolo contendere, and upon conviction of the defendants, the Department will recommend jail sentences . . ." Mr. Clark said.

## Hotel Reservation Forms for 1948 Convention Mailed

Copies of application blanks to be used in requesting room reservations for the 41st Annual Convention of the National Canners Association, the week of January 18, 1948, at Atlantic City, N. J., were mailed Thursday to N.C.A. members. For the 1948 Convention, the N.C.A. will make reservations for its members in The Traymore, Marlborough-Blenheim, Dennis, Shelburne, Ritz-Carlton, President, and Jefferson Hotels, this being the group of hotels that was set aside for use of canners. The headquarters hotel will be The Traymore.

All these hotels are located near each other, except for the Ritz-Carlton and the President. All accommodations are desirable. Obviously, all canners cannot be given reservations at the headquarters hotel, and the letter to members which accompanied the mailing of application blanks urged that canners divide their reservations among the other hotels, so that a greater number will have representation at headquarters.

Attendance at the Convention again promises to be heavy. The number of rooms available will not accommodate this large attendance unless reservations are made for double occupancy. The parlor situation is even more critical and requests for parlors may have to be met by using an extra bedroom. Thus, it is essential that requests for parlors be held to the barest minimum and that sleeping-rooms be (See *1948 Convention Hotel Reservations*, page 366)

## Tomato Blight Damage Reported by NCA Raw Products Bureau

The Director of the Association's Raw Products Bureau again surveyed this past week many of the critical tomato blight areas on the Eastern Shore in Maryland, Delaware and Virginia, and in Pennsylvania, for the purpose of evaluating the effectiveness of the control program being undertaken in some of the affected areas. [A preliminary survey (See *Tomato Blight Damage*, page 365)]

## 1947 Crop Production Still May Be Near-Record, USDA Says

Crop prospects as a whole improved slightly during the month of July, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported this week in its August crop production report. Weather in most of the country was favorable to ideal for maturing and harvesting small grains and for hay. The net result of changes in the various crops is that total production is estimated as of August 1 at 2 percent above the average for the 1942-46 period and only 2 percent below the

record volume attained last year. The relatively large aggregate production of all crops in prospect August 1 is built up from a record volume of food grains, an above average outturn of feed grains, relatively large tonnages of oilseed crops, as well as heavy production of fruits, vegetables and special crops, USDA said.

Deciduous fruit production on August 1 was estimated about 4 percent less than the record total of last year. Only minor changes in prospects occurred during July.

Commercial apples are now indicated 5 percent less than last year, but slightly above average. Peaches are still the fourth record crop in succession—slightly above last year and 38 percent above average. Grapes are a record crop and the pear crop is only slightly below last year's record. Cherries turned out about a fifth below last year, but 15 percent above average. Prunes are about a tenth below last year, but only slightly below average. Apricots are all harvested and turned out a short crop, about 43 percent less than last year and 17 percent below average.

Prospects for the new citrus crops are favorable in all areas except Arizona where hot dry weather has caused considerable damage.

On August 1, tonnage estimates for four major vegetables for processing, green peas, snap beans, sweet corn and tomatoes, indicate that this year's production may total slightly over 5 million tons. This is about 6 percent less than the 1946 production for the same crops, but 29 percent above the 1936-45 average. These four truck crops constitute 85 to 90 percent of the total commercial production of the 11 processing vegetables for which estimates are made, USDA explained.

Excerpts taken from the USDA report and summarized by commodities are as follows:

#### Apples

The Nation's commercial apple crop is estimated at 113,589,000 bushels, up, roughly 2½ million bushels from the July forecast. This is 5 percent less than the 1946 crop of 119,410,000 bushels, but slightly above the 1936-45 average production of 112,896,000 bushels. Improved prospects in four North Atlantic States account for more than half of the gain during July. For the Eastern States as a group, the August 1 forecast is up 1.9 million bushels from the July estimate. In the North and South Central States, apple production prospects show only minor changes from the early estimate. But in 5 of the 8 Western States production prospects have moved upward with improved growing conditions.

#### Peaches

The peach crop is now estimated at 86,783,000 bushels—slightly larger than the previous record of 86,643,000 bushels in 1946 and 38 percent above the 10-year average of 62,936,000 bushels. Production prospects declined 1,273,000 bushels during July, as reductions in California and the southern States more than offset the improved Michigan outlook.

The Southern States—principal source of peaches in the East in July and early August—produced an estimated total of 22,611,000 bushels. This is 10 percent less than the record large 1945 total but 2 percent above last year.

In the West, prospects declined about a million bushels during July due mostly to smaller sizes in California, especially of Clingstone varieties. The early and midseason "clings" were mostly harvested by August 1, a week to 10 days earlier than usual. Harvest of California clingstones will be active during August and end about September 20. Freestone peaches are likewise early and the harvesting for drying of important varieties such as Muirs and Lovells began at an earlier date than usual in nearly all localities. Harvest of freestones should be active until the end of August and shipments will continue into October. Clingstone varieties are placed at 22,502,000 bushels, 3 percent below the record large 1946 crop and Freestones at 13,501,000 bushels are 4 percent below the 1946 record.

The Colorado production is indicated 20 percent above average and 6 percent above 1946 but declined about 5 percent during July due to an unusually heavy "drop" in Mesa County. The Delta County crop continues unusually promising. Volume shipments from Colorado are expected between August 18 and September 5.

Harvest of the record large Washington crop of 2,974,000 bushels should be most active the last 3 weeks of August. Elberta harvest will start the first week of August, to be followed a few days later by Hales. Picking for processing will be at a peak the last half of August.

#### Pears

The Nation's pear crop is estimated at 34,208,000 bushels—one percent less than last year's record but 16 percent above average. July was favorable for development of the crop in all three of the Pacific Coast States. Both Bartletts' and fall and winter pears show improvement. For Washington, Oregon and California the Bartlett crop is placed at 19,564,000 bushels in comparison with 20,253,000 last year, and fall and winter pears are estimated at 7,437,000 bushels this year and 7,675,000 last. The crop in Pennsylvania and Michigan is below average and last year. The New

York crop is moderately lower than average but above 1946. The harvest season is one to two weeks earlier than usual in the West, but one to two weeks late in the East.

California Bartletts are placed at 11,418,000 bushels—2 percent above 1946 and 21 percent above average. Volume harvest of Bartletts started about July 10 and should continue through the first week of September.

Bartlett pear production in Washington is estimated at 6,080,000 bushels—10 percent below 1946 but 24 percent above average. Because of the early season and a lighter set than a year ago, sizes are large for this time of year. Harvest for both fresh market and processors will be active the last 3 weeks of August.

Oregon Bartlett pear output, at 2,066,000 bushels, is 12 percent below last year but 22 percent above average. The season is about 10 days earlier than usual in the Rogue River section of southwest Oregon where the Bartlett harvest will be most active from August 5 to 20 and other varieties from about August 25 to September 25. At Hood River the season is about 2 weeks earlier than usual. The Bartlett harvest in this area will be heavy the second and third week of August and harvest of other varieties the first three weeks of September.

#### Plums and Prunes

Production of plums in California and Michigan is estimated at 82,300 tons compared with 106,000 tons in 1946 and the 10-year average of 75,580 tons. The prospective California crop dropped from 84,000 tons on July 1 to 78,000 on August 1. Early maturity has reduced the volume of California plums that will be harvested and shipped. Rather heavy culling is taking place. The season is not expected to last as long as usual.

The 1947 crop of prunes for all purposes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho is estimated at 95,200 tons (fresh basis) compared with 152,600 tons in 1946 and the average of 130,580 tons. This is a very short crop, the smallest since 1940.

#### Figs and Olives

California fig prospects show little change from a month ago. The August 1 condition, at 84 percent, is 1 point above the 1936-45 average, but 4 points below that reported on August 1, 1946. Good crops are in prospect for all four major varieties—Black Mission, Adriatic, Calimyrna and Kadota. In the central San Joaquin Valley figs are maturing earlier than in recent years. A heavy tonnage of dried figs is expected to move to packing plants during August. Condition of California olives at 50 percent is slightly below that of a year ago and below average. Development of California olives is quite ir-

regular to date, with many trees carrying practically no fruit set.

#### Apricots

Prospective production of apricots in California, Washington and Utah is now estimated at 193,000 tons compared with 398,700 tons last season and the 1936-45 average of 231,515 tons. In California, apricot harvest was completed earlier than usual. Production is estimated at 160,000 tons—9 percent smaller than indicated on July 1, 52 percent of 1946 and 76 percent of average. Washington apricot harvest was completed in nearly all producing sections by August 1. Production is estimated at a record high of 28,000 tons and 3 percent above 1946. Utah production is estimated at 5,000 tons—14 percent smaller than reported on July 1 and 7 percent below last season.

#### Sweet Cherries

With harvesting virtually completed in all areas of the 12 commercial States, the 1947 cherry crop is about 3 percent larger than estimated on July 1. However, the total crop at 182,530 tons, is 21 percent below the 1946 crop, although 15 percent above the 1936-45 average production.

The estimate of sweet cherry production, at 83,020 tons, is slightly smaller than the July 1 estimate, 26 percent less than 1946 production and about equal to the 10-year average. Production of sweet cherries in Michigan, Utah, New York and some of the other minor producing States exceeded July 1 expectations but did not offset decreases in Oregon and Ohio. The crop was unusually light in Oregon where spring freezes and heavy rains at harvest time reduced tonnage to only a third of last year's crop and about one-half of average. Idaho's crop was cut to two-thirds of the large 1946 production. Washington and California came through the 1947 season with crops 9 and 15 percent, respectively, below last year's production.

#### Sour Cherries

Sour cherries, now estimated at 99,510 tons, show an increase of 7 percent over the July 1 estimate but a decrease of 15 percent from the large 1946 crop. Sour cherry production has shown a sharp upward trend in recent years and the 1947 crop is 22 percent larger than average. Abundant moisture during July favored sizing and added considerable tonnage in the important producing States of New York and Michigan. Most of the decrease below last year's large crop is due to some freeze damage and poor pollination weather in Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania.

#### Estimated Fruit Production

The statistics on fruits shown in the following table were taken from

USDA's August crop production report and show only the total production of fruits for all purposes, since USDA as a rule, does not differentiate between fruits for processing and for fresh market usage:

Commodity	1946 1,000 bushels	1947 Indic. 1,000 bushels
Apples (Commercial)		
Eastern States.....	53,393	40,685
Central States.....	18,987	20,633
Western States.....	47,030	52,271
Total.....	119,410	113,589
Peaches		
California clingstone.....	23,085	22,502
California freestone.....	14,001	13,501
Washington-Oregon.....	3,429	3,816
Total U.S. (all peaches).....	86,643	80,783
Pears		
California Bartlett.....	11,168	11,418
Oregon Bartlett.....	2,335	2,066
Washington Bartlett.....	6,750	6,080
Total U. S. (all pears).....	34,447	34,208
Apricots	Tons	Tons
California.....	306,000	160,000
Washington.....	27,300	28,000
Utah.....	5,400	5,000
Plums		
California.....	100,000	78,000
Michigan.....	6,000	4,300
Prunes		
Idaho.....	22,400	32,600
Eastern Washington.....	19,800	21,100
Western Washington.....	9,300	5,000
Eastern Oregon.....	18,100	18,700
Western Oregon.....	83,000	17,800

## Foreign Trade

### CARE Urges Canned Foods for Foreign Relief Program Uses

A larger proportion of canned foods for foreign relief distribution was advocated this week by Paul Comby French, Executive Director of CARE, Inc. Mr. French, returning from his third trip to Europe within the past 90 days, advised the Association that he had called upon Congressman Christian Herter of Massachusetts and Dallas Dort of the State Department and recommended that the use of canned foods in the relief program was just as economical and had proven to be much surer, convenient, and less wasteful.

Mr. French said the distribution of United States bulk foods in Europe was failing (1) in respect of adequate humanitarian results because of the limited and unbalanced diet our food grains afforded; (2) in respect of

good will because of inadequate measures for making known the source of the relief and for establishing a basis for future American markets; (3) in respect of economic results because of widespread looting, pilfering, and "black market" operations.

"In CARE'S packaged distribution system overseas," said Mr. French, "we make it a practice to get a receipt from every recipient. We haven't failed yet to achieve this, and yet we have organized distribution in all the countries, except Russia, behind the iron curtain." We distribute in Finland, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, and Roumania, as well as in other European territories. In the nine months in which we have been distributing 'packaged relief' in these areas, we have not been able to find a single case of misappropriation."

Mr. French informed Washington officials that in the face of known European looting of foods shipped by the United States in bulk form, he thought the distribution of packaged foods—canned foods—might be just as economical, dollar for dollar spent, as bulk grains, sugar, etc. He said packaged distribution in Europe was surely more convenient and had proven itself less wasteful.

CARE, Inc., sends \$10 packages overseas for the account of any and all American donors who wish privately to help feed needy Europeans. CARE's "Standard" package consists of the following canned foods: 12 oz. bacon, 1 lb. braised beef, 1 lb. liver loaf, and 1 lb. corned beef loaf. Other items in the package usually are 2 lbs. shortening, 2 lbs. sugar, 1 lb. apricots, 1 lb. raisins, 7 lbs. flour, 2 lbs. chocolate, 2 lbs. whole milk powder, 8 oz. egg powder, 1 lb. coffee, ½ lb. tea or coffee, 6 oz. soap, and ¼ oz. yeast.

### Salmon Ship Sinks Following Collision With Freighter

The Alaskan motorship Diamond Knot with a cargo of canned salmon aboard sank on August 13 following a collision with the freighter Fenn Victory.

The Alaska Steamship Co. estimated the value of the 154,000 cases of canned salmon lost at upwards of three and one-half million dollars.

The Diamond Knot and the 10,681-ton freighter Fenn Victory collided shortly after 1 a.m. (PST), August 13, but none of the 38 crew members of the Diamond Knot nor the Fenn Victory's crew of 46 was lost.



## PROCESSING SWEET CORN

**Estimated Production Is Slightly Smaller This Year than in 1946, BAE Says**

The August 1 indicated production of sweet corn for processing is 1,209,700 tons, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics announced this week. This is about 2 percent less than the 1946 production of 1,228,800 tons but exceeds by about 26 percent the average of 962,500 tons.

The preliminary estimate of acreage for harvest is 507,300 acres. This is about 2 percent above the 1946 harvested acreage of 496,310 acres and nearly 23 percent above the average of 413,560 acres. In arriving at the acreage for harvest in 1947, an allowance was made by States for abandoned or unharvested acreage about in line with the average losses of recent years.

The yield of 2.38 tons per acre indicated on August 1 for 1947 compares with 2.48 tons obtained in 1946 and an average for the 1936-45 period of 2.34 tons per acre. Hot, dry weather in July following a late planting season reduced yield prospects below average in practically all States from the Rocky Mountains eastward except in Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and the Tri-State area.

The table below shows this year's indicated corn production with comparisons by States and years:

State	Production		
	10-year average 1936-45	1946	Indicated 1947
	Tons	Tons	Tons
Maine.....	43,800	41,300	36,500
New Hampshire.....	1,800	1,600	1,300
Vermont.....	3,000	1,800	1,900
New York.....	51,500	66,000	61,600
Pennsylvania.....	24,800	22,000	31,200
Ohio.....	47,000	49,700	42,800
Indiana.....	77,800	64,000	72,000
Illinois.....	161,500	174,200	182,400
Michigan.....	5,200	4,600	5,200
Wisconsin.....	114,300	210,000	235,800
Minnesota.....	182,400	220,900	221,000
Iowa.....	93,800	114,800	66,500
Nebraska.....	4,500	6,200	4,000
Delaware.....	6,500	11,500	11,400
Maryland.....	77,700	86,900	82,800
Virginia.....	1,200	1,100	1,100
Idaho.....	10,600	30,600	31,300
Utah.....	3,300	9,900	14,400
Washington.....	22,100	56,900	51,200
Oregon.....	10,000	33,600	38,400
Other States <sup>1</sup> ...	20,000	21,200	16,900
U. S. Total...	962,500	1,228,800	1,209,700

<sup>1</sup> Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, New Jersey, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, and Wyoming.

<sup>2</sup> Short time average.

## Statistics

## Industrial Production Drops; Worker Employment Is Same

Industrial production during June declined slightly from the May level but remained above the level of a year ago. Production worker employment was unchanged during June from a month earlier. Wholesale prices of all commodities and all foods increased slightly from last month and were substantially higher than during June 1946.

The consumer price index and retail prices of all foods increased slightly from May and remained substantially higher than last year. Retail prices of canned and fresh fruits and vegetables declined somewhat during June.

The following table, showing the indices from which the above comparisons were made, was derived from indices issued by the Federal Reserve Board and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. To facilitate comparisons with the prewar period, the indices were computed on the basis of the 1935 to 1939 average equals 100.

Index of	June 1947	May 1947	June 1946
	1935-39 = 100		
Industrial production—all....	183	185	170
Processed fruits and vegetables.....	131	137	162
Production worker employment—			
All manf. ind.....	154	154	145
Wholesale prices:			
All commodities.....	183	182	140
All foods.....	205	202	143
Consumers' price index.....	157	156	133
Retail prices—all foods.....	190	188	146
Canned fruits and vegetables.....	170	172	128
Fresh fruits and vegetables.....	208	210	197

## Glass Container Production

Production of glass containers, dropping slightly from the high level of output that prevailed in the first 5 months of the year, totaled 9.6 million gross in June, according to the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. This total was 9 percent below May production but was over 600 thousand gross, or 7 percent, greater than output in June 1946. Production of nonreturnable beer bottles in June increased by 189 percent over May, while wine bottles and returnable beverage bottles also showed increases.

## CABBAGE FOR KRAUT

**Report of BAE Shows 1947 Acreage Contracted for Is Still Less than 50% of 1946**

Kraut packers have an estimated total of 4,700 acres of cabbage for harvest this fall, under contract and on their own or leased land, according to a report issued this week by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This is less than half of the comparable acreage harvested in 1946 and compares with the 1936-45 average of 9,030 acres, BAE said.

From the 4,700 acres of cabbage planted for kraut, a production of 43,900 tons is forecast on the basis of packers' reports on the August 1 condition of the crop and probable yield per acre. The indicated yield is 9.34 tons. This production compares with 147,400 tons obtained under contract in 1946 and an average of 73,800 tons.

No information is yet available concerning the quantity of cabbage that may be purchased on the open market in 1947 for manufacture into kraut. No estimate of such purchases will be made until December. However, last year a total of 275,200 tons of cabbage were utilized by kraut packers of which 127,800 tons or 46 percent were purchased on the open market. During the 1936-45 period, an average of 162,200 tons were made into kraut, of which 88,400 tons, or about 55 percent, were open market purchases, BAE explained.

Total and contracted acreage of cabbage for kraut grown in 1946 and the indicated 1947 contracted production are shown in the following table:

State	Total production <sup>1</sup> 1946	Production on contract acreage	
	Tons	1946	1947
	Tons	Tons	Tons
New York.....	127,800	41,600	5,700
Ohio.....	31,400	23,800	8,100
Indiana.....	13,900	12,100	.....
Illinois.....	3,700	.....	.....
Michigan.....	6,200	6,200	2,200
Wisconsin.....	58,700	45,500	15,300
Minnesota.....	1,500	1,000	900
Colorado.....	2,800	.....	.....
Washington.....	4,100	4,100	1,400
Other States <sup>2</sup> ...	25,100	13,100	10,300
U. S. Total...	275,200	147,400	43,900

<sup>1</sup> Total production comprises tonnage obtained from contract acreage, tonnage obtained from land owned or leased by processors, and tonnage purchased on the open market.

<sup>2</sup> Florida, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Virginia.

## PROCESSING TOMATOES

## 1947 Intended Production To Be 5 Percent Less than 1946, BAE Indicates

A total of 3,227,700 tons of tomatoes for processing is in prospect for 1947, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported this week. This indicated production, based on reports received from canners and manufacturers of tomato products, is about 5 percent less than the record high 1946 production of 3,380,900 tons but exceeds the 1936-45 average of 2,442,100 tons by about 32 percent.

The preliminary estimate of acreage for harvest in 1947 is 551,600 acres. This compares with 566,640 acres harvested in 1946 and 477,500 acres for the 10-year average. In arriving at the State acreages for harvest in 1947, allowance was made for abandoned or unharvested acreage about in line with average loss of recent years.

On August 1 a yield of 5.85 tons per acre is indicated for 1947. This compares with 5.97 tons obtained in 1946 and 5.11 tons for the 1936-45 average. The yield of 8.5 tons indicated for California, where nearly a quarter of the acreage of the country is located, while not equal to the 1946 yield, is considerably above average. Unfavorable weather during the planting season in States eastward from Iowa to New York has delayed the crop, but yields indicated on August 1 are not much below average except in New York, Ohio, Iowa

and Wisconsin. Scattered outbreaks of late blight were reported near the end of July in parts of Virginia, and northward to New Jersey, the BAE explained.

The following table shows the actual production for 1946 and the estimated 1947 production with comparisons by States:

State	Production		
	10-year average 1936-45	1946	Indic. 1947
	Tons	Tons	Tons
New York.....	151,200	175,400	162,000
New Jersey.....	196,800	218,900	249,600
Pennsylvania.....	131,200	99,200	210,400
Ohio.....	156,600	257,600	199,500
Indiana.....	442,300	529,400	480,200
Illinois.....	42,600	100,800	75,200
Michigan.....	33,800	36,100	46,800
Wisconsin.....	10,900	5,700	5,400
Iowa.....	19,100	17,100	8,800
Missouri.....	32,000	32,900	27,600
Delaware.....	46,700	37,800	50,400
Maryland.....	240,600	139,200	220,800
Virginia.....	91,800	88,200	104,000
South Carolina.....	3,700	5,200	5,100
Florida.....	10,500	8,500	5,400
Kentucky.....	11,700	12,200	9,500
Tennessee.....	14,200	6,200	7,200
Arkansas.....	34,300	51,200	52,000
Oklahoma.....	1,600	11,400	4,300
Texas.....	32,400	80,900	26,800
Colorado.....	22,800	28,800	26,800
Utah.....	64,200	60,800	75,300
California.....	627,800	1,330,600	1,150,000
Other States <sup>1</sup> ...	23,300	20,800	18,600
U. S. Total...	2,442,100	3,380,900	3,227,700

<sup>1</sup> Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Washington, and West Virginia.

## Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Shipments from Cuba Rise

The season for fresh fruit and vegetable shipments from Cuba was virtually closed in June, U. S. Department of Commerce officials reported this week. About 1,000,000 crates of fresh pineapples reportedly were exported, and only about 100,000 additional crates were expected to be shipped.

The equivalent of approximately 800,000 crates of pineapples rotted in the fields, attributed to early maturity and lack of markets, refrigerated ocean shipping, and tin plate for canning.

It was reported that about 9,000,000 or 10,000,000 pounds of avocados probably would be exported this season, with shipments commencing on June 20.

Total shipments of fresh vegetables

this season were smaller than in the preceding season and amounted to only about 36,000,000 pounds, scarcely 43 percent of the prewar average. This decline was chiefly because of the late blight which greatly reduced the tomato crop. The Cuban Ministry of Agriculture is disseminating information as to measures for controlling this disease next year.

## USDA Meat Production Report

Meat production under Federal inspection for the week ended August 9 totaled 280 million pounds, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This production was about the same as the 279 million pounds produced during the preceding week but 6 percent below the relatively large production of 297 million pounds for the corresponding week of last year.

## PROCESSING SNAP BEANS

## BAE Reports 1947 Production Will Be 6 Percent Less than Last Year

Production of snap beans for processing is indicated to be 197,300 tons, according to an announcement issued this week by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This August 1 indicated production is about 6 percent less than the 1946 production of 209,600 tons but nearly 23 percent above the average production of 160,700 tons. The production now in prospect is 5,000 tons more than was indicated on July 1.

A yield of 1.80 tons per acre was indicated on August 1 for 1947. This compares with 1.70 tons in 1946 and 1.67 tons for the 1936-45 period. Yield prospects improved during July in most of the Northern States east of the Rocky Mountains and more than offset the declines in the Northwest, Utah, the Ozarks and a few other scattered areas, BAE stated.

The estimated snap bean production for this year with comparisons by States and years is given in the following table:

State	Production		
	10-year average 1936-45	1946	Indic. 1947
	Tons	Tons	Tons
Maine.....	4,600	6,600	5,800
New York.....	19,200	37,200	34,000
New Jersey.....	2,700	5,600	4,500
Pennsylvania.....	5,600	6,100	7,000
Indiana.....	1,400	100	200
Michigan.....	8,500	7,900	8,800
Wisconsin.....	13,000	12,000	14,600
Missouri.....	1,100	1,200	1,700
Delaware.....	1,600	1,800	1,400
Maryland.....	10,900	13,200	14,400
Virginia.....	3,300	3,900	3,700
North Carolina.....	1,700	2,400	1,700
South Carolina.....	1,600	3,600	1,000
Georgia.....	1,700	2,600	1,800
Florida.....	11,000	17,100	13,600
Tennessee.....	5,000	6,000	5,200
Mississippi.....	1,900	3,000	1,500
Arkansas.....	9,900	13,600	12,200
Louisiana.....	2,400	3,400	2,700
Oklahoma.....	3,400	3,300	3,600
Texas.....	6,200	12,800	11,200
Colorado.....	3,300	3,300	3,200
Utah.....	2,900	1,100	1,200
Washington.....	6,000	7,600	8,400
Oregon.....	18,500	25,000	26,700
California.....	4,400	5,000	4,800
Other States <sup>1</sup> ...	2,900	3,300	2,400
U. S. Total...	160,700	209,600	197,300

<sup>1</sup> Alabama, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Vermont, and Wyoming.

## Meetings

### Speakers Urge Kraut Packers to Increase Their Production

Featured speakers at the annual meeting of the National Kraut Packers Association, recently at Sandusky, Ohio, were M. W. Baker, assistant director, Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Professor Howard D. Brown of Ohio State University, and Professor Glen Pound of the University of Wisconsin.

Pointing out that over the past 20 years, the kraut industry has been operated at a rate averaging less than 70 percent of its capacity, Baker indicated that the kraut industry could easily increase its production.

"Production has ranged from a low of about 95,000 tons in 1933 to a high of 265,000 tons in 1946," Baker explained. "Let us assume, then, that your productive capacity is approximately 265,000 tons of raw cabbage. However, in only five of these 20 years have you processed as much as 75 percent of that volume.

"Volume production would not appear to be an immediate problem when an industry produces heavily in one year only to have that production reduced 25 to 30 percent during the succeeding two years. Actually, we all know that productive capacity means two things, production and storage. These are joint operations and constitute the essential functions performed by sauerkraut people."

### Forthcoming Meetings

September 2-4—American Meat Institute, Annual Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago, Ill.

October 6-7—Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Institute, 15th Annual Meeting, Hotel Sheraton, Springfield, Mass.

October 9-11—Florida Cannery Association, Annual Meeting, Sheraton-Plaza Hotel, Daytona Beach, Florida.

October 23-24—National Pickle Packers Association, Fall Meeting, Continental Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

November 6-7—Ozark Cannery Association, Fall Meeting, Connor Hotel, Joplin, Mo.

November 10-11—Wisconsin Cannery Association, 43rd Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wis.

November 10-12—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., 39th Annual Meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York, N. Y.

November 17-18—Pennsylvania Cannery Association, 33rd Annual Meeting, Yorktowne Hotel, York, Pa.

November 20-21—Iowa-Nebraska Cannery Association, Annual Convention, Savary Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa.

November 20-21—Indiana Cannery Association, Fall Convention, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.

December 3-5—Georgia Cannery Association, Annual Meeting, Sheridan Bon Air Hotel, Augusta, Ga.

December 4-5—Tri-State Packers Association, Fall Convention, Traymore Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

December 9-10—Ohio Cannery Association, Annual Convention, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

December 11-12—Association of New York State Cannery, Inc., 62nd Annual Meeting, Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y.

January 7-9—Northwest Cannery Association, Annual Meeting, Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Ore.

January 13-17—National Food Brokers Association, Annual Meeting, Chalfonte-Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 16-17—National Pickle Packers Association, Winter Meeting, New York, N. Y.

January 18-23—National Cannery Association, Annual Convention, The Traymore, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 18-23—Canning Machinery & Supplies Association, Annual Exhibit, Convention Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 19—National-American Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

March 15-18—National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Annual Convention, Chicago, Ill.

## Standards

### FSA Will Hold Rehearing on Green, Wax Bean Standards

Federal Security Administrator Watson B. Miller this week advised the Association that the Food and Drug Administration will grant the petition on behalf of the National Cannery Association, the Wisconsin Cannery Association, the Association of New York State Cannery, Inc., and the Tri-State Packers Association for a rehearing and possible amendment of the standards of identity and quality for canned green and wax beans. Full text of Mr. Miller's letter to the Association follows:

Gentlemen:

I have your application for a hearing to take evidence on proposals you advance to amend the definitions and standards of identity and standards of quality of canned green beans and canned wax beans.

In support of your request with respect to the quality standards you present certain data to the effect that the present quality standards do not conform to the grade standards of the Production and Marketing Administration or to commercial quality standards. Standards under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act are necessarily framed in accordance with the statutory mandate to promote honesty and fair dealing in the interest of consumers. Failure of such

standards to conform to standards of the Production and Marketing Administration and commercial quality standards would constitute reasonable grounds for amendment only to the extent that it can be shown that Production and Marketing Administration and commercial grade standards are better calculated to promote honesty and fair dealing in the interest of consumers.

The tabulated data you submit as part of your reasons for proposing changes in quality standards include reports of analyses showing differences in fiber content. These data are not easy to evaluate since the variations suggest the use of different methods of analysis by the laboratories making the determinations. The soundness of the conclusions you have drawn from these and other data cannot be evaluated without further explanation of the results obtained in terms of method of analysis and of the significance to consumer interest of the Production and Marketing Administration and commercial grades which you report in connection with these data.

It is not clear whether your proposal to amend the identity standards with reference to the use of the word "stringless" is intended to permit the use of that word in the name of the food on the ground that it is a part of a varietal name and without regard to whether the beans are in fact stringless. I would like some clarification of this proposal.

As you know, the evidence that strings are a quality factor was practically uncontested at the hearing which resulted in the adoption of the present standards. How the presence



of tough strings might be reasonably applied as a measure of quality to the Blue Lake variety of green beans was difficult to determine, and the standard reflects the difficulty.

It is the intention of the Agency to call a hearing to take further evidence on the standards of quality for canned green beans and canned wax beans as soon as investigations now being conducted by the Food and Drug Administration are completed. Because that hearing is planned, it will be our purpose to include in the notice of such hearing provisions for taking evidence on your proposals to amend the standards of quality, but we should like to have further information on the points we have mentioned.

The amendment of July 30 to your original application calls attention to the presence in "short cuts" of pieces longer than one-half inch and suggests an amendment to the definitions and standards of identity for canned green and canned wax beans providing for a tolerance for such longer pieces.

On July 1, 1947, you recommended that an administrative tolerance for such pieces be announced. The matter was referred to the Food and Drug Administration, who requested that you furnish further explanation, including samples of packs showing the difficulties encountered. It was not made clear in your letter of July 1, or in your amended application, the specific tolerance you have in mind, or why the label designation "Mixture of Short Cuts and Cuts" is not a reasonable and accurate description of the short cuts containing longer pieces. I do not feel that sufficient information is available at present to justify a decision as to this phase of your application, or with respect to the proposed use of the word "stringless."

Sincerely yours,  
(s) Watson B. Miller,  
Administrator.

#### TOMATO BLIGHT DAMAGE

(Concluded from page 359)

of these regions was made by the N.C.A. Raw Products Bureau around August 1 and reported to N.C.A. members at that time by a special INFORMATION LETTER bulletin.]

Plant pathologists point out that tomato plant defoliation in the Tri-State area this year is due primarily to three specific causes: (1) early blight, (2) late blight, and (3) physiological or nutritional defoliation. Early blight has been far more serious this season than during the past few years, and is responsible for most of the defoliation up to the last week of July in this area, especially where the fields either had not been sprayed or dusted with Zerlate or some of the

Dithane formulations, or where a superficial job of spraying or dusting had been done.

During the past three weeks late blight has been more or less serious in some widely-spread local areas but these areas are generally rather restricted and blight in serious proportions has not become epidemic in the whole area. Fields in these areas were visited this week when the air temperature exceeded 90 degrees F. and active sporulation was found in sprayed fields at 3 p.m. in the afternoon.

In these areas as much as 30 to 50 percent of the fruit were infected and 20 to 40 percent of the foliage had been killed. It was also found that these areas had received more rain and that either fairly heavy night fogs or very heavy dews had occurred so that the foliage did not dry off until nearly noon of the next day. In adjoining areas with less rain, and not subject to fogs or heavy night dews, the crown foliage was found to be infected but the fruit only rarely.

In practically all cases where rain, heavy fog or night dews was responsible for severe infection, and where the blight had continued to spread even in fields which had been sprayed immediately preceding blight infection or during the past two weeks, it was observed that the leaf coverage on both the upper and lower surfaces by the fungicide was not complete. Active blight sporulation was found on lower surfaces of leaves, the upper surfaces of which were well coated with copper. This fact indicates that lack of "coverage" was the cause of spread and throws doubt on the statement sometimes made that copper was ineffective. Further evidence of this possibility was forthcoming when several growers reported that after they had increased the gallons applied per acre from 125 to 200, or even 300, further spread of blight had been prevented. Many of these growers likewise doubled the amount of fixed copper per 100 gallons of spray (see INFORMATION LETTER for August 2, page 349).

These observations clearly indicate that fundamental information is still lacking on the factors which are responsible for the occurrence and spread of blight, and on the proper time of application and formulation of fungicides used for its control. In other words, the tomato strain of late blight is apparently more virulent than the potato strain and conditions for its development and spread may be somewhat different than those for the potato strain. After all of the data for 1947 have been assembled, it

may be necessary to revise some of the previous recommendations made for control of the disease, which, up to this time, were based to a large extent on meager research data and circumstantial evidence due to the fact that the disease had not heretofore been serious on tomatoes.

In some areas of the Eastern shore of Maryland and in New Jersey physiological or nutritional defoliation has caused so much damage that only about half a crop will be realized, in some cases. This type of defoliation has been caused by a set of peculiar climatic conditions which favored the development of a shallow root system early in the season. Heavy rains in mid-July leached out most of the soluble nutrients in the shallow root zone. Extremely dry weather in late July and early August further reduced the absorptive capacity of the plant so that many fields showed boron and magnesium deficiency and general starvation, to such an extent that only the crown and secondary set of fruit will be harvested. The reason for calling attention to this condition is that many farmers are wrongly attributing this type of defoliation to late blight.

## Instruction

### Maryland U. Canning Course

A complete four-year course for students desiring to major in the field of commercial processing of horticultural crops has been established by the University of Maryland at College Park. This course of study was established in response to requests from leading canners and freezers for trained men equipped to accept responsible positions in the commercial processing of fruits and vegetables.

For the past decade several courses dealing with the processing of fruit and vegetable crops have been offered by the University of Maryland's Department of Horticulture. The object of the new advanced courses of study is to train students in a practical way so that they will have a thorough background of methods as well as a clear understanding of the various problems in the processing industry.

Interested persons desiring further information are requested to write to Department of Horticulture, University of Maryland, College Park, Md.

### Canners Again Urged to Send in Can Size Data

A number of canners still have not returned the can size questionnaire sent them on July 8, requesting a list of can sizes that should be recommended for packing of various canned food products. The Association is assembling this information to be used in offering the industry's recommendations to amend the standard list of can sizes issued by the National Bureau of Standards in 1940 (S.P.R. 155-40).

If no report or recommendation is received from a canner, or if no questionnaire is returned, it will be assumed that the standard list as published in S.P.R. 155-40 meets with the approval of the canner.

#### 1948 CONVENTION HOTEL RESERVATIONS

(Concluded from page 359)

requested on the basis of double occupancy to permit accommodation of all members. The hotels are insisting upon double occupancy of double rooms.

The National Food Brokers Association has announced its meeting in Atlantic City on January 13, following which, brokers will be available for conferences. Hotel facilities have been made available this year to enable brokers to remain during the week of the National Canners Convention. Arrangements have been made with the hotels whereby canners who wish to meet early with their brokers may request early reservations and retain these rooms throughout the National Canners Convention week. *Reservations at The Traymore will not be available prior to Thursday, January 15, as the hotel is being utilized by another convention group. This situation applies, however, only to The Traymore.*

Along with the application form, the Association enclosed a room rate schedule of the hotels with the urgent request that canners make early decisions as to their preference of rooms and hotels. Canners should indicate their choices on the form sent them and return it by September 15 at the latest.

When the forms are assembled, reservations will be assigned to firms by room numbers, and the Association will advise the hotel regarding the

room numbers assigned each firm, together with the arrival and departure dates of the canner-occupants. It is therefore important that these dates be entered on each application form. A duplicate of this notice to the hotels will be sent each member, and upon its receipt the member-canner should immediately furnish the hotel with the names of the room occupants, whereupon the hotel will confirm the reservation.

This is essentially the same plan as was followed in handling reservations for the 1947 Convention.

During the week of January 13, rooms not assigned to canners requesting early reservations will be used by the brokers to accommodate non-canner principals. Therefore, so as to avoid confusion, it is of *prime importance that members state definitely their arrival date*, since it is practically impossible to advance an arrival date once the hotel has been notified.

The associations that customarily hold annual meetings at the same time and place as the National Canners Association have been allotted other Atlantic City hotels as follows:

National Food Brokers Association—Chalfonte-Haddon Hall, Mayflower, Senator, Strand, Seaside, Colton Manor, Columbus, Morton, Lafayette, President and Breakers.

Canning Machinery & Supplies As-

sociation—Claridge, Crillon, Madison, Brighton, and Monticello.

National Kraut Packers Association—Flanders.

National-American Wholesale Grocers Association—Ambassador, Villa D'Este, and Chelsea.

U. S. Wholesale Grocers Association—Chelsea.

National Association of Food Chains—President.

Super Market Institute—Morton.

### Kraut Packers Officers

Officers of the National Kraut Packers Association elected at its Annual Meeting held recently in Sandusky, Ohio, are as follows:

President—John M. Stroup, Empire State Pickling Co., Phelps, N. Y.; vice president—Arthur Henkel, Fremont Kraut Co., Fremont, Ohio; secretary-treasurer—Roy Irons, Clyde, Ohio.

### Death Takes C. B. Spencer

C. B. Spencer, President of the Spencer Packing Co., Lebanon, Ore., died August 13. He was a Director of the National Canners Association in 1944 and 1945, and was a member of the N.C.A. Resolutions Committee from 1941 until 1945. Mr. Spencer was an active worker in Association and canning industry affairs.

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